

2555505

Aspiration House Limited

Monitoring visit

Inspected under the social care common inspection framework

Information about this children's home

This privately run home is registered to provide care and accommodation for up to 12 children who have a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder and/or atypical autism, learning disabilities, global development disorder and associated difficulties.

The home registered in April 2020. Due to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic, a full inspection has not been carried out to date.

An assurance visit was carried out in December 2020. Serious and widespread concerns were identified at that visit. An immediate suspension notice was issued on 18 December 2020. The suspension notice was made until 12 March 2021. All three children who were living at the home at that time were moved to alternative provisions.

A monitoring visit was undertaken on 4 February 2021 to consider progress made following the suspension notice being issued. Some progress had been made to address the serious and widespread concerns. The decision was made that the suspension notice should remain in place following that period, as further work needed to be completed.

The manager has been registered since April 2020.

Inspection date: 9 March 2021

This monitoring visit

This visit was carried out to review the progress made by the provider in relation to the shortfalls found at the assurance visit and following the initial monitoring visit in February 2021.

A visit was made to the home on 9 March 2021. A tour of the home and grounds took place and a meeting was held with the registered manager. The inspector was provided with further documents to consider prior to and during the visit.

The registered manager and responsible individual have carried out reflective practice/learning exercises since the last visit. They have fully considered the previous serious concerns in relation to the use of restraint, management of children's behaviour and risk assessments. Detailed investigations have been carried out to fully understand patterns, trends and triggers from past incidents. Detailed reports have been produced and shared with Ofsted.

Staff have undertaken new and refresher training in a range of areas. This includes staff training in a new physical intervention model, as well as reporting, recording and safeguarding training. New recording systems for incidents have been implemented. New and more robust management monitoring systems have been devised. All these actions should reduce the risk of children not being protected from harm in future.

The registered manager and responsible individual have a good grasp of the impact the quality of care provided in the home was having on the progress and experience of children previously living there. This has led to improved management monitoring and recording systems being devised. New systems for consulting with children have been agreed and improvements have been made to complaints administration and responses. This should lead to better outcomes for any children placed and improve the ability of managers to take any necessary action to reduce risks, in a timely manner.

A new independent visitor has been appointed since the assurance visit in December 2020. Managers have met with the visitor and set out their expectations regarding the visits. Improved systems are in place for monitoring and ensuring that any recommendations from the monthly visits are fully considered and responded to. This should add to improvements in the management monitoring and reviewing of the quality of care provided to children living in the home.

The period of suspension has now ended. No further requirements were made following this visit.

Recent inspection history

Not previously inspected

Information about this inspection

The purpose of this visit was to monitor the action taken and the progress made by the children's home since its last Ofsted monitoring visit in February 2021.

This inspection was carried out under the Care Standards Act 2000.

Children's home details

Unique reference number: 2555505

Provision sub-type: Children's home

Registered provider: Aspiration House Limited

Registered provider address: 2nd Floor, 9 Portland Street, Manchester M1 3BE

Responsible individual: Deborah Carr

Registered manager: Helen Whittleton

Inspector

Tracy Murty, Social Care Inspector

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for children looked after, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at <http://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2021